




May 22, 2010


The SMART protocol has been implemented on Deepwater Horizon incident to a greater extent than previously at other incidents. NOAA recently delivered raw data from the SMART teams without technical interpretation to EPA.

- The SMART data was delivered prior to quality review in the spirit of cooperation and should be considered preliminary.
- No interpretation was made on the data at the time it was made available.
- These results should not be used in the decision making process until this interpretation is performed.

Some of the issues associated with interpretation relate to attenuation of the fluorometer. Readings plotted on the same graph represent different levels of sensitivity and detection. This needs to be corrected to a common scale before comparisons can be made.

Respectfully,


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Reviewed

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